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PP RUEHDBU RUEHLH RUEHPW
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ZNY SSSSS ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5491
INFO RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ALMATY PRIORITY 9720
RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK PRIORITY 3897
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0887
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 1794
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE PRIORITY
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 6559
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 4749
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 9824
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 1030
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT PRIORITY 2243
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 3754
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 0779
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 9002
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 1556
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

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TAGS: [AF](#) [MASS](#) [MOPS](#) [PK](#) [PNAT](#) [PREL](#)

SUBJECT: FIGHTING GWOT: IMPROVING FMF, FMS, AND OTHER
MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAMS TO PAKISTAN

Classified By: Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker, Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (S) As we enter the sixth year of this long war, it is increasingly clear that our Foreign Military Funding/Foreign Military Sales (FMF/FMS) programs, unchanged since 9/11, are not suited to the needs of GWOT allies like Pakistan. Difficulties we have encountered with some security assistance programs have become strategic problems for us and for the Pakistani Military.

¶2. (S) We appreciate the recent high-level attention devoted to ensuring delivery of 20 Excess Defense Article Cobras that the U.S. agreed to transfer to Pakistan in February 2004. However, the delays in the refurbishment process have come at a significant cost. The Pakistani Army needs enhanced rotary wing aircraft capacity to patrol its border with Afghanistan and to destroy al Qaida and anti-Coalition militia targets, and the problems with the Cobra program have harmed their ability to do this. Additionally, the delays have diminished Pakistan's confidence in the FMS program, as have delays in delivering six used C-130s for which the Pakistanis signed a Letter of Agreement with Lockheed Martin in August, 2003.

¶3. (S) We encourage State and DoD to continue efforts to develop more streamlined, responsive and flexible military assistance programs that can fulfill urgent taskings related to the War on Terror. From our vantage point, security assistance programs should set appropriate priorities for coalition partners and then provide necessary resources quickly. Capacity-building programs should be rigorously managed with "best practices" in mind. Additionally, the defense trade control process, while clearly necessary, needs to be more efficient. Six-month delays during the Cold War were merely annoying; today, they can carry a heavy cost.

¶4. (S) We thank State and DoD for their continued assistance as we try creatively and expeditiously to assist Pakistan in defeating our common enemies.

